

Central Press

APRIL 2022

Central Presbyterian Church □ 3501 Campbell □ Kansas City, MO 64109

Calendar

April Wednesdays

Pantry & Clothes Closet
8 am — noon

April 3

Communion Sunday

April 5

Personnel 4:30 pm

April 5, 19

Staff meeting 9:30 am

April 10

Palm Sunday

April 12

B & G 4:00 pm

April 14

Maundy Thursday
Soup Supper 5:30 pm

April 15

Good Friday; Stations
of the Cross 9:00—noon

April 17

Easter Sunday

April 20

Session 6:30 pm

April 24

Earth Day —
tree dedication

April Birthdays

Mark Murphy	3
Pattie Corwin	7
Candace Heflin	20
Steven Heflin	21
Chris James	21
Rebecca Merola	22
Matthew Mullins	26
Jeff Light	27
Barbara Curry	28

Visioning Process

"Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18

At the March meeting The Session adopted a timeline for our visioning process and is committed to engage all voices as we seek to discern God's purposes for our congregation.

The visioning process begins with a short town hall meeting on Sunday, April 3 at 10:15 a.m. (just prior to worship). The meeting will outline in more detail this plan and process and how you can be involved,

Then we will commence a month-long period of prayer. Weekly prayer guides will be emailed to all members and friends of Central beginning on April 3. Printed copies will also be available in worship on April 3.

A detailed **survey** will be distributed in April both electronically and in print. We encourage you to be in prayerful discernment as you complete your survey. It includes questions related to our vision, mission, property, staffing, and leadership. (NOTE: If you have not yet completed the worship survey, it is still open: www.surveymoney.com/r/CPresby)

We will also be conducting a survey of our neighbors. Those in the immediate neighborhood will receive an invitation, but the link will be open to anyone to complete. We encourage you to forward this link to friends and neighbors, especially those living in midtown, downtown, and Hyde Park. We will invite neighbors to share their thoughts and concerns about the neighborhood and the church.

On May 14, the Session will take a day retreat for prayerful discernment, paying careful attention to the responses in our survey. The retreat will not be the conclusion of the vision process, but will help us to have a clear focus and action items for further input, discernment, and planning. Work in these focal areas will continue through the summer, with the goal of completing a draft vision and mission plan and presenting it to the congregation in August or early September.

VISIONING *continued page 2*

Palm Sunday

April 10—We will once again join St. Mark's Lutheran and St. James Catholic churches for our Palm Sunday gathering in the park on Harrison Parkway. Meet at the church at 9:30a.m. April Communion will be on Palm Sunday at 10:30 a.m. rather than on April 3.

Maunder Thursday

April 14 5:30p.m. Soup Supper and Communion. Please let us know if you are coming. Call the church office or sign up online: www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4FADAE2AA64-maundy

Good Friday

April 15
The Sanctuary will be open from 9:00-12:00 noon for a self-guided Stations of the Cross.

Easter Sunday

April 17—You are invited to help provide flowers for Easter Sunday. Contact the church office or sign up on the church bulletin board.

VISIONING, continued from page 1

This is a time where it is important to hear all voices, even and especially the unheard or unusual voices and ideas. It is not so much a time for each of us to express our thoughts and opinions, but more of a time to discern how God might be at work in and through us.



Upcoming Events

Earth Day - April 14 To commemorate Earth Day and our commitment as an Earth Care congregation, we will meet for worship outdoors in the garden. (Weather permitting). Rev. Heidi Peterson will also be joining us that day as we dedicate the tree given in honor of her ministry by More Light Presbyterians.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

The national meeting of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will be in downtown Kansas City April 26-May 1. Some of the participants will join us in worship on Sunday, May 1, and we will hear a Moment for Mission about our partnership in disaster relief. Let's show our guests from around the country a warm Central welcome!

Electronic Recycling Event

Once again, Central will host an Electronic Recycling event in our parking lot on Saturday, May 21 from X to X. Put the date on your calendar now and tell your friends.

Welcome to 3501!

April brings new occupants to our building. We have entered into lease agreements with one of our mission partners.

Reconciliation Services will be occupying our kitchen for the next two years as the preparation site for Thelma's Kitchen box lunches. Between 10-20 volunteers will be present every weekday to prepare up to 800 meals per month. For information on how you or others can volunteer, or to order box lunches for yourself or a group: www.thelmaskitchen.org.

New VOIP phone system

The church has moved from our phone systems from AT&T Landlines to a VOIP (Voice over Internet) system. Callers to the church will hear a recorded message with options to select the person they are trying to reach, with voicemail options.

No Holy Happy Hour in April — Save Friday, May 13

Pantry News by Tessa Sheehan

The first ninety days as Director of Community Outreach for Central Presbyterian has been an extraordinary period of positive and exciting change as we are now meeting the needs of neighboring food insecure households on a weekly basis in a warm and empowering atmosphere.

We have transitioned from premade bags, serving approximately 24 to 32 households each month to market model shopping, serving approximately 32 households each week! Both the recipients and the volunteers are enjoying what is becoming a weekly opportunity to catch up with one another while shopping for weekly meals, choosing from quality meats, dairy, canned goods, Farm to Market breads, and fresh produce, as well as clean, quality clothing, accessories, from our "boutique" and household items and toiletries, from our "sundries" department!

In addition to all that we are doing, in honor of the passing of Central's office dog, Happie, we are so pleased to announce The Happie Pet Pantry! More information to come along with an invitation to honor Happie's life and reveal the memorial pet pantry. There will also be an opportunity to donate to Happie's Pet Pantry fund, supporting pet care services, helping pet families struggling to meet both food and vet expenses. Pastor Jeff Light garnered a relationship with Greater

Kansas City Humane Society, as a source for an abundance of highest quality foods and treats, which we are so looking forward to sharing.

As we approach warmer seasons, with support from both our recipients of The Food Pantry and our volunteers, we will be adjusting our pantry service hours, beginning May, as follows: Wednesday, 9am - 11am and a second shift later the same day, to serve our community who cannot visit us during the morning service, perhaps 4:30 - 6:30pm or 5pm - 7pm.

Wondering how you can help? We welcome you to become involved in any way possible. If you or anyone you know would like more information on volunteer opportunities, please email me at pantry@centralpreskc.org.

Donations needed!:

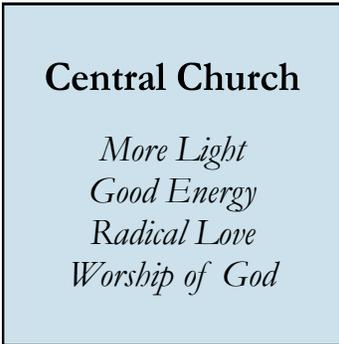
- ◆ MENS CLOTHING - All sizes welcome but large to 4X and shoes. Please consider our community desires clean, quality, casual, active wear to casual business.
- ◆ SUNDRIES - Toilet Paper (individually wrapped is preferred but not required), Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Dental Floss, Dish Soap, Chap Sticks, Bar Soap (individually wrapped), Laundry Detergent - Pods only, for now. Please note, many of the area dollar stores sell these items at extremely affordable prices.

Sincere Gratitude, to everyone, for all your support. Daily I am humbled and amazed by the innate goodness of those I am serving and those I am serving with.

Session Actions

At the March meeting, the Session voted for Sunday worship to be "mask optional" effective immediately. With the dramatic decline in both test incidences and test percent positivity rates in Kansas City and the slower but steady decrease in COVID hospitalization cases, the Session acted to make it optional for persons to wear masks in worship. Volunteers and pantry guests are still required to wear masks. Persons should feel comfortable to continue to wear masks per their choice and for their safety and the safety of others.

Central Presbyterian Church
 3501 Campbell
 Kansas City, MO 64109
 Phone: 816 931-2515



April Worship Duties

<u>DATE</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>WORSHIP LEADER</u>
4/3	Ray Hill Sara Boyd	Roberta McBride
4/10	Lynda Raner Don Haring	Margaret Barger
4/17	Phil Utton Matthew Mullins	Mary Merola
4/24	Sandae Custard Sara Hirsch	Sonja Carlson

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

Jeff Light, *Transitional Pastor*

Cynthia Sheppard, *Director of Music*

Sarah Jacobs, *Organist*

Jan Powell, *Secretary*

Tessa Sheehan, *Director Community Ministries*

Central Presbyterian Session Members

David Alonzo	Anna Lisa Lawton
Cheryl Cornett	Rebecca Merola
Jim Corwin	Lynda Raner
Allison Dodds	

Clerk of Session: Roberta McBride

Central Presbyterian Committee Moderators

Administrative	Cheryl Cornett
Building & Grounds	Mary Merola
Mission & Service	Sandae Custard
Personnel & Policies	Allison Dodds
Social Media/Marketing	Anna Lisa Lawton
Worship	Rebecca Merola